

**LEMON GROVE CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

Item No. 4
Mtg. Date August 5, 2014
Dept. Development Services

Item Title: Progress Report: Implementation of the 2013 Municipal Stormwater Permit

Staff Contact: Malik Tamimi, Management Analyst
Graham Mitchell, City Manager

Recommendation:

Receive this informational report on the implementation of the 2013 Municipal Permit Order No. R9-2013-0001.
--

Item Summary:

On May 8, 2013, the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) adopted Order No. R9-2013-0001. The new stormwater permit went into effect on June 27, 2013. The permit requires that the City participate in the development of a Water Quality Improvement Plan (WQIP) and Jurisdictional Runoff Management Program. Both plans are due to the RWQCB no later than June 27, 2015. City staff is currently identifying pollutant load reduction strategies for metals and bacteria as part of the development of the WQIP. Costs to implement the pollutant load reduction strategies are currently not available; however, staff has been focused on identifying the most cost effective strategies that are mostly comprised of source control best management practices. The staff report (**Attachment A**) provides additional information on the permit required deliverables.

Fiscal Impact:

None.

Environmental Review:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not subject to review | <input type="checkbox"/> Negative Declaration |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Categorical Exemption, Section [] | <input type="checkbox"/> Mitigated Negative Declaration |

Public Information:

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter article | <input type="checkbox"/> Notice to property owners within 300 ft. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Notice published in local newspaper | <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood meeting | |

Attachments:

A. Staff Report

LEMON GROVE CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

Item No. 4

Mtg. Date August 5, 2014

Item Title: **Progress Report: Implementation of 2013 the Municipal Stormwater Permit**

Staff Contact: Malik Tamimi, Management Analyst
Graham Mitchell, City Manager

Discussion:

On May 8, 2013, the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) adopted Order No. R9-2013-0001. The new permit went into effect on June 27, 2013 and became the fourth National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Systems Stormwater Permit to be adopted in the San Diego region in the past 23 years. Leading up to permit adoption, significant stakeholder participation was realized in the development of the 2013 permit during a series of workshops initiated by the RWQCB that involved leaders from municipalities, environmental groups, and the building industry. A paradigm shift was observed in the new permit requirements moving regulatory structure and substance from jurisdiction-based to watershed-based permit, prescriptive requirements to adaptive management, and from activity-based to performance-based and numeric-based compliance.

Although the San Diego Region continues to operate mostly under the 2007 permit requirements during this transition, it is expected that municipalities will fully implement the requirements of the 2013 permit no later than June 27, 2015. Both a Water Quality Improvement Plan (WQIP) and Jurisdictional Runoff Management Program (JRMP) are required to be submitted to the RWQCB on the aforementioned date.

The difference between the WQIP and JRMP is that a WQIP is a planning document on a watershed level that identifies priority conditions (highest priority pollutants), pollutant sources, strategies to eliminate pollutant discharges, goals, and schedules. It is intended to further the Clean Water Act's objective to protect, preserve, enhance, and restore the water quality and designated beneficial uses of waters of the state. While the JRMP is the City's jurisdictional program intended to implement strategies that effectively prohibit non-stormwater discharges to the storm drain system and reduce the discharge of pollutants in the stormwater to the maximum extent practicable. This goal is accomplished through implementing the JRMP in accordance with the strategies identified in the WQIP.

Since the adoption of the 2013 permit, Lemon Grove has taken on a lead role in the San Diego Bay Watershed comprised of nine other jurisdictions and Caltrans. To date, two public workshops have been conducted and an interim deliverable presenting priority water quality conditions, sources and strategies were submitted to the RWQCB. Both metals and bacteria have been identified as the highest priority pollutants for the City of Lemon Grove. Selection of these pollutants is consistent with the existing Total Maximum Daily Loads identified for Chollas Creek.

The next deliverable includes presenting strategies, goals, and schedules to reduce and or eliminate discharge of metals and bacteria into the storm drain system. Two public workshops will be schedule in the Fall 2014. City staff is regularly meeting and working across departments to identify strategies that can be implemented to attain pollutant load reduction

Attachment A

goals on a proposed schedule. Many of the strategies being discussed are non-structural or a shift in policy to add new requirements on new development or redevelopment such as covered enclosures for trash bins and disconnection or redirection of drain pipes to landscaping. Discussions on strategies have also focused on routine maintenance such as the use of vacuum enhanced street sweeping versus mechanical brush sweeping for removal of metals and requiring businesses with large parking lots to sweep on a regular basis. Lastly, discussions have also focused on enforcement policies to ensure that requirements are being implemented in order to attain the permit driven load reduction goals.

Once the second deliverable has been submitted in December 2014, a Final WQIP will be developed, combining the first and second interim deliverables. The Final WQIP is due on or before June 27, 2015 with the City's JRMP. Lastly, it is worth noting that there will be an increase in cost to implement these new strategies but it is not clear what the additional cost will be at this time. Many of the strategies selected are focused on controlling pollutants at the source (source control) which is the most cost effective method in striving to attain the permit driven load reduction goals.

Conclusion:

The City is in the development phase of the WQIP and JRMP as required by the 2013 Municipal Permit. City staff continues to meet to identify and select strategies to address pollutant load reduction requirements. Staff seeks feedback from the City Council regarding the WQIP and potential strategies to meet the requirements of the 2013 Municipal Stormwater Permit.